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ORDER AGAINST THE QUAKERS

Att a Councill held att James Citty ffebruary 20th 1690: Present, The Rt Honorble ffrancis Nicholson Esqr their Majties Lieut. Governor Nathanll Bacon Esqr Secr Coll. Willm: Bird Coll: Christ Wormeley Coll: Jno Armistead.

This Board having beene informed yt ye Inhabitants of Pensilvania declare that if ye ffrench or Indians Come agt them, they will acquaint them they have noe Quarrell with them nor will not fight whereby if either of those Enemies shall goe thither, they will not only bee supplyed with provisions, but a place of retreat after Mischiefe done which may prove of Dangerous Consequence to ye peace and Safety of this and all other Majties Plantations in these parts, and itt being Considered that ye ffrequent meeting of Quakers in severall places of this Collony of their owne appointing without ever acquainting the Governor with ye same, or doeing what is required by an Act of Parliamt made in the first year of ye Reigne of our Soveraigne Lord & Lady, William and Mary, by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, ffrance & Ireland &c. King and Queen, entitled an Act for Exempting their Mayties protestant subjects dissenting from ye Church of England from ye penalties of Certaine Lawes, not only by the Inhabitants of this Collony, but those of Maryland, Pennsilvania and other places usually present, by means whereof the ffrench or Indians if possest of Pensilvania have fitt opportunity of knowing ye affairs of the Governt, and ordering themselves to do mischiefe, accordingly, ffor prevention whereof for ye ffuter and to the end the aforesd Act of Parliament may bee put into effectual Execution, itt is ordered that after publication hereof (which all their Mayties Justices of the Peace in the respective Counties in thie Colony are required to Cause to be done, att ye next Court to bee held for their said Countyes) that none of ye psons usually called Quakers doe prsume to meet at any place whatsoever without first doeing and pformeing what by the Recited Act of Parliamt is requir'd and Comanded upon penallty of being prosecuted and suffering such paines and penalties as by

the said act are to bee Inflicted on those whoe (do) not comply therewith, and to ye end that the said Act may bee duly pformd, all their May^{tyes} Subjects within this Collony especially Justices of ye Peace, sheriffs and other May^{tyes} officers whatsoever are hereby required and comanded to take Care that noe pson or psons whatsoever presume to doe or Act anything Contrary to ye full intent and meaning thereof. And it is further ordered that if after ye said psons called Quakers have pformed what is required by ye aforesaid Act of Parliament any strangers from any other Goverm^{t} shall come among them they give an acc^{t} of every such person to ye next Justice of ye Peace, whoe is hereby ordered to Cause ye said pson or psons to appear before him and take his or their Examinacon under his or their hands to what place he or they belong whither going and when, and of all things else which may be for their May^{ties} service, and forthwith returne ye same (if hee see Cause) to ye R^{t} Hono^{ble} ffrancis Nicholson Esqr their May^{ties} Leu^{t} Governo^{r} that such further order may bee had therein as shall bee agreeable to Law, and itt is alsoe ordered that if any pson whatsoever shall receive by letter or hear any strange news which may tend to ye disturbance of ye peace of their Governm^{t} that they doe not presume to publish ye same but with ye first Conveniency repaire to ye next Justice of ye Peace and acquaint him therewith, whoe is to Act therein according to Law. *Copia Vera.* Test W. Edwards Cl Cur. March ye 24th 1690/1. Published then in York Court and ordered to be Recorded. Test. I. Sedgewicke D. Cl. Cur.